

4YO ÉMILE ZOLA, NOVELIST AND REFORMER

which were suggested by Vizetelly, — the latter objecting to "Pascal," the first Zola had taken, for it might have proved a guide to any French process-server acquainted with. "Le Docteur Pascal," the novelist's well-known book. Vizetelly therefore proposed some names which would not attract much attention and might pass as being either English or French. At Oatlands Park and Penn, therefore, Zola was known as Beaueharnp; at Summerfield as Roger (akin to Rogers); and at the Queen's Hotel, Norwood, whither he ultimately removed, as Richard, which suggested Richards. Vizetelly was in constant communication with him and frequently at Penn and Summerfield. At other times hardly a day passed without an exchange of notes, mostly, however, on trivial little matters connected with Zola's requirements, — his bicycle, his photographs, the books he wanted, a supply of manuscript paper, some passing trouble with a servant, the difficulty of getting fish, or the replies to be given to journalists or others. Here is a rather more interesting note which Zola wrote on July 29, when he was moving from the Oatlands Park Hotel, where he had attracted some little attention:

I am worried that I cannot occupy Penn until Monday, for I feel that my stay here without Madame Beauchamp,¹ whose arrival I announced, is beginning to seem strange. However it is necessary to accept the situation. To

throw people off the
scent this is -what we must do. Let me be
fetched on Monday
between two and three in the afternoon
with one of the convey-
ances at the station [Walton-on-Thames],
not one belonging to
the hotel. The vehicle can wait while I pay
my bill, and after-
wards we can all drive to the station as if
I were going to Lon-

¹ Madame Zola had been expected, "but, being watched,
Lad been unable
as yet to leave Paris,